

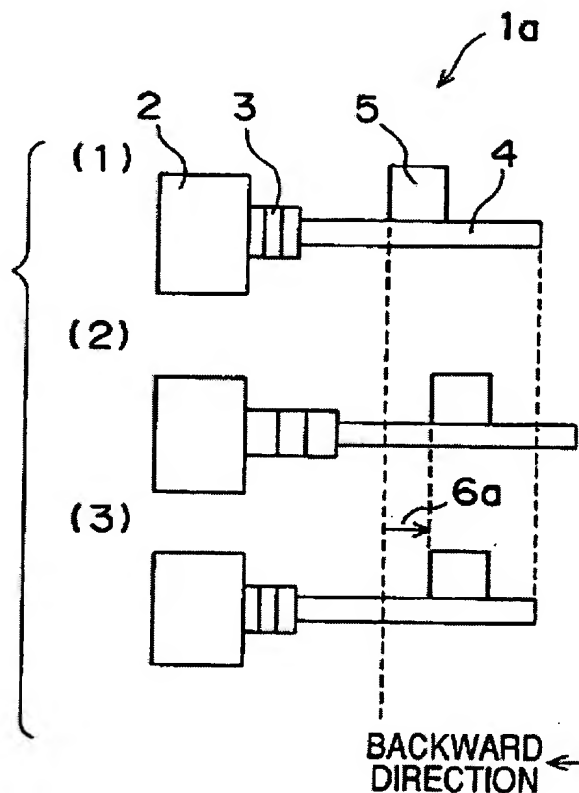
DRIVE MECHANISM EMPLOYING ELECTROMECHANICAL TRANSDUCER AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING THE DRIVE MECHANISM**Patent number:** US2004012304**Publication date:** 2004-01-22**Inventor:** YOSHIDA RYUICHI (JP); TANII JUNICHI (JP);
OKAMOTO YASUHIRO (JP); YUASA TOMOYUKI (JP)**Applicant:****Classification:****- international:** H01L41/09; H01L41/09; (IPC1-7): H01L41/09**- european:** H01L41/09D**Application number:** US20020053186 20020118**Priority number(s):** JP20010013048 20010122**Also published as:**

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An actuator using vibration caused by a piezoelectric element. The actuator includes: an driving rod bonded to one of the piezoelectric element; a engaging member for engaging frictionally with the driving rod; and a control circuit for applying the piezoelectric element with a driving voltage. The control circuit is provided with a drive circuit which generates a first set of the driving voltage for driving the engaging member, and with a friction reducing circuit which generates a second set of the driving voltage for reducing a frictional force exerting between the driving rod and the engaging member.



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